

Message Text

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14

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USIA FOR IEU, IPS/MI; STATE FOR EUR/SOV; P&C/LENINGRAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APUB, UR

SUBJECT: AMERIKA ILLUSTRATED DISTRIBUTION

REF: MOSCOW 17593

1. TWO RECENT MEETING WITH SOYUZPECHAT OFFICIALS IN KAZAKHSTAN AND TADZHIKISTAN (ALMA-ATA AND DUSHANBE) HAVE BEEN SATISFYING IN THE SURFACE BUT LEAVE LINGERING DOUBTS ABOUT THE STATUS OF DISTRIBUTION OF AMERIKA OUTSIDE MOSCOW.

2. S. V. MUKHAMEDSHIN, DIRECTOR OF KAZAKH SOYUZPECHAT, STATED THAT EACH MONTH 435 AIS ARE SOLD AT KIOSKS THROUGHOUT THE REPUBLIC ANKVMYRVJDISTRIBUTED BY SUBSCRIPTION IN ALMA ATA AND TSELINOGRAD. MUKHAMEDSHIN SAID HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY ABOUT AI SINCE HE HAS NEVER LOOKED AT THE PUBLICATION CRITICALLY. HE ASKED ONLY THAT WE DELIVER IT ON TIME. THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT 200,000 FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS ARE SOLD IN KAZAKH S.S.R. EACH MONTH, BUT HE CLAIMED NOT TO KNOW IF THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE WAS AMONG THEM. (WE FOUND THIS STRANGE SINCE ONLY SP DISTRIBUTES PUBLICATIONS IN THE USSR.) NINETEEN MILLION COPIES OF LOCAL PUBLICATIONS ARE DISTRIBUTED WEEKLY; 400,000 COPIES OF PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA ARE DISTRIBUTED DAILY. MANY MORE PEOPLE RECEIVE THEIR PUBLICATIONS BY SUBSCRIPTION THAN BY NEWSTAND SALES.

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3. THE DIRECTOR OF SOYUZPECHAT IN TADZHIKISTAN, M. KOPYLOV, SAID HE HAD ONLY BEEN IN OFFICE SOME THREE MONTHS AND THERE WERE MANY QUESTIONS HE COULD NOT ANSWER. HE SAID 75 COPIES OF AI ARE SOLD MONTHLY AT NEWSSTANDS AND 65 ARE DISTRIBUTED BY SUBSCRIPTION. KOPYLOV SAID THESE NUMBERS DID NOT INCLUDE COPIES DISTRIBUTED TO OFFICIALS, BUT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW MANY COPIES WERE OFFICIALLY DISTRIBUTED. (THIS ALSO IS STRANGE SINCE KOPYLOV SAID ALL ISSUES CAME THROUGH SOYUZPECHAT, AND NOT DIRECTLY FROM THE ACADEMY, MFA OR OTHER OFFICES IN MOSCOW TO THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN DUSHANBE.) LOCAL PUBLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN TADSHIK, UZBEK AND RUSSIAN BUT KOPYLOV CLAIMED NOT TO HAVE ANY FIGURES. THERE ARE TWO LOCAL NEWSPAPERS. AS IN KAZAKH, MANY MORE PEOPLE RECEIVE PUBLICATIONS BY SUBSCRIPTION THAN BY KIOSK PURCHASE.

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